ZU-402

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of:

Takashi HAKUTA, et al.

Serial No.

09/673,608

Filed:

October 19, 2000

For:

CROSSLINKABLE RUBBER COMPOSITION AND USES THEREOF

The Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

January 31, 2001

Group: 1711

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R.§§1.56 and 1.97(b)(3)

Sir:

In accordance with Applicants' obligation under 37 C.F.R. 1.56 and 37 C.F.R. 1.97(a), Applicants are submitting herewith Form PTO-1449, listing thereon, documents known to Applicants and considered as potentially relevant to the examination of this application. A copy of each document listed on Form PTO-1449 is enclosed herewith. This Statement is filed within the time limit set forth in 37 CFR 1.97(b)(3).

No representation is made that a search or the prior art has been conducted or that more relevant prior art does not exist.

Applicants reserves the right to offer evidence and/or reasons to establish that the claimed invention is patentable over any single cited document or combination of cited documents.

The documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449, are the documents, discussed in the specification of the subject application. For the Japanese patent documents, only English Abstracts are provided. The relevance of each identified item is as set forth in the discussion of that item in the specification.

Serial No. 09/673,608

For Japanese Patent Laid-Open Publication No. 154355/1992, see page 2, lines 21 et seq.

For Japanese Patent Laid-Open Publication No. 33924/1995, see page 3, line 1, et seq.

For Japanese Patent Laid-Open Publication No. 116811/1999 (application no.

0227778/1998), see page 6, lines 3 et seq. and page 103, lines 1-6.

For U.S. Patent Nos. 2,979,150, 2,823,218, 3,159,601, 3,159,662, 3,516,946, 3,775,452 and 3,814,780, see page 109, lines 1-5.

U.S. 6,111,021 is a family member with WO 97/02316.

Consideration of these documents as part of the examination of the subject application and return of the initialed and dated Form PTO-1449 is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

by

Richard A. Steinberg

Attorney for Applicants

Reg. No. 26,588

SHERMAN & SHALLOWAY P.O. Box 788 Alexandria, Virginia 22313 (703) 549-2282